(vi) Officers should have the prescribed minimum years of service/basic pay for each level at which empanelment is done.

SC and ST officers eligible as per these guidelines have been included among those nominated by this Department for Central deputations.

(b) Does not arise, in view of reply to part (a) above.

(c) Year	Officers nominated		
	Total	SC	ST
1996	8	—	1
1997	8	—	—
1998	30	1	4

(d) Does not arise, in view of reply to part (a) above.

Recovery of Outstanding Dues of Telephone Bills

1251. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 517 given in the Rajya Sabha on 3rd December, 1998 and state:

(a) the efforts made so far and those proposed to recover Government dues pertaining to telephone bills from those who have not yet cleared the same;

(b) whether Government have disconnected the telephones of those persons as is done in the cases of electricity defaulters; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) Information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

Opening of Telephone Exchanges in Adivasi and Non-Adivasi areas of Maharashtra

1252. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state: